

Amendments of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) A method for allowing non-guide applications implemented on user television equipment to use device resources within the user television equipment and program guide resources associated with an interactive television program guide implemented on the user television equipment, the method comprising:

receiving, with a program guide application interface, a request directly from a requesting non-guide application to use one of a device resource and a program guide resource; and

directing the request to the one of the device resource and the program guide resource using the program guide application interface.

44. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 wherein the device resource is selected from the group consisting of an on-screen display resource, a front-

panel display resource, a user input interface resource, a tuner resource, a communications circuitry resource, a set-top box resource, and a memory resource.

45. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 wherein the program guide resource is selected from the group consisting of a tuning resource, a parental control resource, a graphics library resource, a pay program purchasing resource, a program guide database access resource, a scheduling resource, and a program guide menu resource.

46. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising maintaining a registered application list.

47. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising processing control requests from the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

48. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising directing user input to the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

49. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising coordinating multiple requests to utilize the device resource.

50. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising coordinating multiple requests to utilize the program guide resource.

51. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising suspending the operation of one of the applications.

52. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising resolving conflicts between applications that desire access to a user input device at the same time.

53. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 43 further comprising resolving conflicts between applications that request access to the same remote control keys of a remote control at the same time.

54. (Previously Presented) A system for allowing non-guide applications implemented on user television equipment to use device resources within the user television

equipment and program guide resources associated with an interactive television program guide implemented on the user television equipment, the system comprising:

means for receiving, with a program guide application interface, a request directly from a requesting non-guide application to use one of a device resource and a program guide resource; and

means for directing the request to the one of the device resource and the program guide resource using the program guide application interface.

55. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 wherein the device resource is selected from the group consisting of an on-screen display resource, a front-panel display resource, a user input interface resource, a tuner resource, a communications circuitry resource, a set-top box resource, and a memory resource.

56. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 wherein the program guide resource is selected from the group consisting of a tuning resource, a parental control resource, a graphics library resource, a pay program

purchasing resource, a program guide database access resource, a scheduling resource, and a program guide menu resource.

57. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for maintaining a registered application list.

58. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for processing control requests from the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

59. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for directing user input to the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

60. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for coordinating multiple requests to utilize the device resource.

61. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for coordinating multiple requests to utilize the program guide resource.

62. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for suspending the operation of one of the applications.

63. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for resolving conflicts between applications that desire access to a user input device at the same time.

64. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 54 further comprising means for resolving conflicts between applications that request access to the same remote control keys of a remote control at the same time.

65. (Previously Presented) A system for allowing non-guide applications to use device resources and program guide resources, the system comprising:

user television equipment on which a plurality of device resources, an interactive television program guide having a plurality of program guide resources, and a program guide application interface are implemented; and

wherein the program guide application interface is configured to:

receive a request directly from a requesting non-guide application to use one of a device resource and a program guide resource; and

directing the request to the one of the device resource and the program guide resource.

66. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65 wherein the device resource is selected from the group consisting of an on-screen display resource, a front-panel display resource, a user input interface resource, a tuner resource, a communications circuitry resource, a set-top box resource, and a memory resource.

67. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65 wherein the program guide resource is selected from the group consisting of a tuning resource, a parental control resource, a graphics library resource, a pay program purchasing resource, a program guide database access resource, a scheduling resource, and a program guide menu resource.

68. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65, wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to maintain a registered application list.

69. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65, wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to process control requests from the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

70. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65, wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to direct user input to the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

71. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65, wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to coordinate multiple requests to utilize the device resource.

72. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65, wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to coordinate multiple requests to utilize the program guide resource.

73. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65, wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to suspend the operation of one of the applications.

74. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65 further comprising:

a user input device; and

wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to resolve conflicts between applications that desire access to the user input device at the same time.

75. (Previously Presented) The system defined in claim 65 further comprising:

a remote control; and

wherein the program guide application interface is further configured to resolve conflicts between applications that request access to the same remote control keys of the remote control at the same time.

76. (Currently Amended) ~~Machine~~ Computer-readable media for allowing non-guide applications implemented on user television equipment to use device resources within the user television equipment and program guide resources associated with an interactive television program guide implemented on the user television equipment, wherein the ~~machine~~

~~computer~~-readable media is encoded with ~~machine-readable~~
~~instructions~~ a computer program thereon for:

receiving, with a program guide application interface, a request directly from a requesting non-guide application to use one of a device resource and a program guide resource; and

directing the request to the one of the device resource and the program guide resource using the program guide application interface.

77. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable media defined in claim 76 wherein the device resource is selected from the group consisting of an on-screen display resource, a front-panel display resource, a user input interface resource, a tuner resource, a communications circuitry resource, a set-top box resource, and a memory resource.

78. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable media defined in claim 76 wherein the program guide resource is selected from the group consisting of a tuning resource, a parental control resource, a graphics library resource, a pay program purchasing resource, a program guide

database access resource, a scheduling resource, and a program guide menu resource.

79. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~ computer-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-readable instructions~~ a computer program thereon for maintaining a registered application list.

80. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~ computer-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-readable instructions~~ a computer program thereon for processing control requests from the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

81. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~ computer-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-readable instructions~~ a computer program thereon for directing user input to the interactive television program guide and non-guide applications.

82. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~

~~computer~~-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-~~
~~readable-instructions~~ a computer program thereon for
coordinating multiple requests to utilize the device resource.

83. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-
readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~
~~computer~~-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-~~
~~readable-instructions~~ a computer program thereon for
coordinating multiple requests to utilize the program guide
resource.

84. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-
readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~
~~computer~~-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-~~
~~readable-instructions~~ a computer program thereon for
suspending the operation of one of the applications.

85. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-
readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~
~~computer~~-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-~~
~~readable-instructions~~ a computer program thereon for resolving
conflicts between applications that desire access to a user
input device at the same time.

86. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine~~ computer-
readable media defined in claim 76, wherein the ~~machine~~
computer-readable media is further encoded with ~~machine-~~
~~readable instructions~~ a computer program thereon for resolving
conflicts between applications that request access to the same
remote control keys of a remote control at the same time.